

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Substitute for Original House Bill No. 109 by Representative Howard as proposed by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

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To amend and reenact R.S. 56:325(A)(11) and (12), (B), (C), and (D), to enact R.S. 56:325(E), and to repeal R.S. 56:315(A)(13), relative to recreational fishing daily take and possession limits; to provide relative to the possession limit for crappie taken from Toledo Bend Reservoir on a recreational license; to provide relative to possession of fish filets on the water; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:325(A)(11) and (12), (B), (C), and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 56:325(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§325. Daily take, possession, and size limits; freshwater recreational fish; possession of finfish filets prohibited

A. No person shall take in any one day more than the following of each species of fish, of the designated size where specified:

\* \* \*

~~(11)(a) Except as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, the maximum possession limit for catfish caught on a recreational license shall be one hundred. The one hundred fish possessed may be a single species or any combination of blue, channel, or flathead catfish. In addition, a recreational fisherman shall be allowed a daily possession limit of twenty-five undersize catfish, either a single species or any combination of blue, channel, or flathead catfish.~~

~~(b) From July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2008, the maximum possession limit for catfish caught in Toledo Bend Reservoir on a recreational license shall be one hundred twenty-five fish which may be any combination of species of catfish. In addition, a recreational fisherman on Toledo Bend Reservoir shall be allowed a daily~~

~~possession limit of fifty undersize catfish which may be any combination of species of catfish.~~

~~(12)~~ Shad (*Dorosoma* spp.) - maximum allowance of fifty pounds.

~~(13)~~ (12) Crawfish - one hundred fifty pounds.

B. ~~No (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection, no person shall have in his possession more than twice the number of fish specified in any paragraph of Subsection A, except those specified in Paragraph (11). No person shall possess in excess of the limits specified in Paragraph (11) of Subsection A.~~

~~R.S. 56:325(A)(11)(a)~~ (2) The maximum possession limit for catfish caught on a recreational license shall be one hundred. The one hundred fish possessed may be a single species or any combination of blue, channel, or flathead catfish. In addition, a recreational fisherman shall be allowed a daily possession limit of twenty-five undersize catfish, either a single species or any combination of blue, channel, or flathead catfish.

(3) The possession limit for crappie caught in Toledo Bend Reservoir on a recreational license shall be one hundred fish.

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the commission may amend by rule, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, size limits, daily take limits, possession limits, seasons, and times set by law for freshwater recreational fish. Such limits, seasons, and times may vary between and among waterbodies based on biological data or for purposes of research or experimentation. However, the commission shall not amend by rule the provisions of Subsection B of this Section which apply to possession limits for crappie caught on Toledo Bend Reservoir.

D. Except as provided in this Subsection, no person shall possess any filleted fish while aboard a vessel on the water. However, for the purpose of fish consumption on the water aboard the harvesting vessel, a person shall have no more than two pounds of finfish filets per person on board the vessel, provided that the vessel is equipped to cook such finfish and such finfish does not exceed the applicable take limit.

E. Violation of any of the provisions of this Section constitutes a class two violation.

Section 2. R.S. 56:315(A)(13) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Howard

HB No. 109

**Abstract:** Provides a possession limit of 100 fish for crappie caught on a recreational license in Toledo Bend Reservoir and prohibits the possession of freshwater finfish parts on the water.

Present law provides daily take limits and possession limits for freshwater recreational fishing. The possession limits are two times the daily take limits. Further authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to amend by rule size limits, daily take limits, possession limits, seasons, and times.

Proposed law provides for a possession limit of 100 crappie taken on a recreational license on Toledo Bend Reservoir.

Proposed law removes the commission's authority to amend by rule the possession limits for crappie caught on a recreational license in Toledo Bend Reservoir.

Proposed law further prohibits the possession of freshwater fish filets on the water except allows a two-pound per person limit for the purpose of cooking on the vessel.

(Amends R.S. 56:325(A)(11) and (12), (B), (C), and (D); Adds R.S. 56:325(E); Repeals R.S. 56:315(A)(13))